

Montana State Parks

2020/2021 Fee Schedule

Non-Commercial Fees for the
Montana State Park System



MONTANA **FWP**

A division of Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

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Montana State Parks User Fee Schedule

PARK ENTRANCE FEES	
ITEM	FEE
Daily Entrance Fee (per motor vehicle, including motorcycles or other registered, street-legal vehicles)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident (paid light vehicle registration fee) = \$0 Resident (opted out of light vehicle registration fee) = \$8 Nonresident = \$8
Daily Entrance Fee (pedestrian, bicycle, bus passenger)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident (paid light vehicle registration fee) = \$0 Resident (opted out of light vehicle registration fee) = \$4 per person Nonresident (per person) = \$4 per person
7-consecutive day Non-Resident Vehicle Entrance Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$35
Nonresident Annual Vehicle Entrance Pass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vehicle = \$50 Replacement of Lost Pass = \$10

CAMPING, LODGING & ASSOCIATED FEES		
ITEM	PEAK SEASON FEE <i>3rd Friday of May through 3rd Sunday of September</i>	OFF SEASON FEE <i>3rd Monday of September through 3rd Thursday of May</i>
Campsite without Electricity (per night) <i>* Includes camping at boat slips</i>	Single Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$18 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran = \$9 Nonresident = \$28 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass = \$18 Double Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident: \$36 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran: \$18 Nonresident: \$56 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass: \$36 Premium Campsite/Campground (peak season only): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase campsite fees by \$5 Group Campsite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determined at park level based on site capacity 	Single Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$14 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran = \$7 Nonresident = \$24 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass = \$14 Double Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident: \$28 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran: \$14 Nonresident: \$48 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass: \$28 Group Campsite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determined at park level based on site capacity
Campsite with Electricity (per night) <i>*Includes camping at boat slips</i> <i>** Electricity requires a separate service fee</i>	Single Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident: \$18 + \$6 electricity fee = \$24 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran: \$9 + \$6 electricity fee = \$15 Nonresident: \$28 + \$6 electricity fee = \$34 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass: \$18 + \$6 electricity fee = \$24 Double Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident: \$36 + \$12 electricity fee = \$48 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran: \$18 + \$12 electricity fee = \$30 Nonresident: \$56 + \$12 electricity fee = \$68 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass: \$36 + \$12 electricity fee = \$48 Premium Campsite/Campground (peak season only): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase campsite fees by \$5 Group Campsite:	Single Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident: \$14 + \$6 electricity fee = \$20 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran: \$7 + \$6 electricity fee = \$13 Nonresident: \$24 + \$6 electricity fee = \$30 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass: \$14 + \$6 electricity fee = \$20 Double Occupancy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident: \$28 + \$12 electricity fee = \$40 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran: \$14 + \$12 electricity fee = \$26 Nonresident: \$48 + \$12 electricity fee = \$60 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass: \$28 + \$12 electricity fee = \$40 Group Campsite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determined at park level based on maximum

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determined at park level based on maximum number of camping units allowed in the site 	number of camping units allowed in the site.
Undeveloped Campsite (per camping unit per night)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$12 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran = \$6 Nonresident = \$20 (includes daily entrance fee) Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass = \$12 	Same as Peak Season Fee
Hike-In/Bike-In Shared Campsite (per person per night)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per Person = \$8 Resident Senior/Disabled/Veteran = \$4 	Same as Peak Season Fee
Cabin or Yurt (per night)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$54 Nonresident = \$66 Nonresident with Entrance Pass = \$54 Pet Fee (where allowed, limit of 3 pets) = \$10 per 2 pets per night and \$10 per night for additional pet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$50 Nonresident = \$60 Nonresident with Entrance Pass = \$50 Pet Fee (where allowed, limit of 3 pets) = \$10 per 2 pets per night and \$10 per night for additional pet
Large Yurt (per night)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$60 Non-resident = \$72 Non-resident w/ Entrance Pass = \$60 Pet Fee (where allowed, limit of 3 pets) = \$10 per 2 pets per night and \$10 per night for additional pet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$56 Nonresident = \$68 Nonresident w/ Entrance Pass = \$56 Pet Fee (where allowed, limit of 3 pets) = \$10 per 2 pets per night and \$10 per night for additional pet
Tipi (per night)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$30 Nonresident = \$42 Nonresident with Entrance Pass = \$30 Pet Fee (where allowed, limit of 3 pets) = \$10 per 2 pets per night and \$10 per night for additional pet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resident = \$26 Nonresident = \$36 Nonresident with Entrance Pass = \$26 Pet Fee (where allowed, limit of 3 pets) = \$10 per 2 pets per night and \$10 per night for additional pet
Boat Camping at Boat Slip (per boat per night)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same as single occupancy campsite fees referenced above 	Same as Peak Season Fee
Boat Slip & Mooring Buoy (no camping)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per day = \$6 (Year Around) 	Same as Peak Season Fee
Showers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per shower = \$3 	Same as Peak Season Fee
Sewage Dump Station Use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per use = \$5 per use. Not included with camping fee. 	Same as Peak Season Fee
Corral Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10 per animal per night 	Same as Peak Season Fee

RESERVATION FEES

ITEM	FEE
Reservation Fee: Individual Campsite, Cabin, Yurt, Tipi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10
Reservation Fee: Group Campsite or Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$25
Reservation Modification Fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10
Reservation Cancellation Fee: Individual Campsite or Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$10
Reservation Cancellation Fee: Group Campsite or Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 or more days prior to scheduled arrival = \$50 Less than 21 days = Forfeit 1st night camping fee
Reservation No Show	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No refund Forfeit reservation fee & camping fees

SPECIAL USE FEES

This covers requests for exclusive use of a park, a group of 30 or more, a non-commercial special event, a facility rental, or cord wood permits.

ITEM	FEE
Special Use Permit <i>* Full day = Over 4 hours; ½ day = 1 – 4 hours</i> <i>* A fee may not be required for groups under 30</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups of 30 or less: Full day = \$100; ½ day = \$60 Groups of 31 to 50: Full day = \$150; ½ day = \$90 Groups of 51 to 75: Full day = \$200; ½ day = \$120 Groups of 76 to 100: Full day = \$250; ½ day = \$150 Groups over 100: \$300 Cleaning deposit (optional) = \$100
Facility Rental <i>* Full day = Over 4 hrs. ½ day = 1-4 hrs.</i> <i>* A confirmed reservation of a reservable facility will serve as a special use permit. If using another area of the park, an additional will be required.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groups of 30 or less (year-around): Full day = \$100; ½ day = \$60 Groups of 31 to 50: Full day = \$150; ½ day = \$90 Groups of 51 to 75: Full day = \$200; ½ day = \$120 Groups of 76 to 100: Full day = \$250; ½ day = \$150 Groups over 100: \$300 Cleaning deposit (optional) = \$100
Firewood Cutting Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per cord = \$40 per cord (permit required)

INTERPRETIVE & EDUCATIONAL FEES

ITEM	FEE				
Guided Cave Tours	Tour Name	Adult 15+ years	Youth 5-14 years	Child 4 & Under	Seniors 62+ years
	Classic Cave Tour	\$15	\$10	\$5	\$15
	Paradise Tour	\$15	\$10	FREE	\$10
	Wild Cave Tour	\$40	Must be 15+ years old		\$40
	Candlelight Tour	\$25	\$15	Must be 5+ years old	\$25
	Educational Group Tour	\$12	\$8	\$4	\$12
	Specialty Tours (i.e. Photography Tour)	\$50 per person or as posted			
	Guided Hikes and Tours Interpretive and Educational Programs	Per person = \$4 Or as posted			

II. LEGAL AUTHORITY

A. Sections 23-1-105, 23-1-106, 23-1-118, 61-3-321 MCA, and 12.8.803, 12.8.804, ARM.

III. DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise noted, the Fee schedule utilizes definitions set forth in Montana State Parks public use rules found at 12.8.801 *et seq.*

- A. “Backcountry Campsite” means a designated or dispersed campsite located in isolated roadless areas of the park accessible only by foot, watercraft, horseback, bicycle, or OHV.
- B. “Bike in/Hike in Campsite” means a designated campsite that can be shared by multiple individuals who are travelling by foot or bicycle.
- C. “Boat Camping” means camping overnight onboard a boat or vessel moored at a boat slip or buoy.

- D. “Camping” means the use of a camping unit for temporary residence or sleeping purposes.
- E. “Dispersed Camping” means camping that occurs in areas that are not highly developed and/or individually signed or numbered.
- F. “Educational Group” means an organized group that is officially recognized as an educational or scientific institution by a federal, state, local government entity, or home school per 25-5-111, MCA. Documentation must be on institutional letterhead and include a signature by the head of the institution/department and documentation of official educational or scientific tax exemption as granted by the Internal Revenue Service.
- G. “Nonresident” means a person who does not meet the definition of a resident as defined in 87-2-102, MCA.
- H. “Nonresident daily entrance fee” is the fee for gaining access to a unit of the state park system, either by an annual pass or daily entrance permit.
- I. “Nonresident Annual Vehicle Entrance Pass” is a non-transferable, non-refundable pass that grants a non-commercial nonresident vehicle and occupants of the vehicle access to state parks for a 12-month time period beginning with the month of purchase.
- J. “Nonresident Vehicle” shall be defined as a vehicle bearing license plates from a state, province or country other than Montana.
- K. “Off Season” means the remainder of the year that does not fall within peak season.
- L. “Organized Group” means a structured, ordered, consolidated, or scheduled event on, or occupation of, lands owned or managed by the department or related waters that is not commercial or competitive.
- M. “Peak Season” generally means at a minimum Memorial Day through Labor Day, as determined by park staffing and when visitation is typically higher, potable water and other amenities are available, and/or the state park system operation expenses are higher. Individual park units may set longer peak seasons based on visitation levels and the availability of amenities and staff.
- N. “Premium Campsite/Campground” means a campsite or campground that has a differential fee based on a combination of visitor demand and amenities.
- O. “Reservation Fee” means the transaction fee assessed when using the state park camping reservation program.
- P. “Resident” means a resident of Montana as defined in 87-2-102, MCA.
- Q. “Undeveloped Campsite/Campground” refers to any campsite/campground that provides little or no access to amenities available at full-service campgrounds. These amenities include, but are not limited to, comfort station with running water, electrified campsites, trash collection service, sewer dump stations, or daily park staffing.

- R. “Single Visit” is a stay within a state park during a daily period when the park is open to the public.
- S. “Service Group” means a group that donates proceeds or services to the management or improvement of fish, wildlife, and parks, including the maintenance, management, or the improvement or development of facilities.
- T. “Special Use” means any exclusive use of the park, a group of 30 or more, a non-commercial special event, a facility rental, or a cord wood permit.

IV. APPLICABILITY OF RULES

- A. The fee schedule establishes fees for non-commercial use of state parks. All commercial use of state parks is governed by the department’s Commercial Use Rule per 12.14.101, ARM.
- B. This fee schedule is in effect following the date of adoption through December 31, 2021. The Department may amend the fee rule at any time during this time period.
- C. The Director or their designee may adjust upward or downward fees established in this Fee schedule for one or more of the following reasons:
 - i. To increase utilization of a park and/or to promote special events;
 - ii. In response to camping conditions or to address other factors contributing to visitor dissatisfaction;
 - iii. To accommodate the nature of the activity, compensate for site impacts or department staffing needs, or for other unique circumstances pertaining to the permitted activity;
 - iv. For educational groups when the following conditions are met:
 - 1. The group is from a bona fide institution that meets the definition of an educational group;
 - 2. The group provides a written explanation of the educational purpose of the visit; and
 - 3. The use is not primarily for recreational purposes.
 - i. For service groups when the following conditions are met:
 - 1. The group or event donates proceeds or services to the management or improvement of park resources including the maintenance, management, or the improvement or development of facilities;
 - 2. The group or event is organized for and primarily attended by children under the age of thirteen.

V. ENTRY TO STATE PARKS

- A. A person driving a vehicle registered and licensed in Montana with a paid state park light vehicle registration fee will be granted daily entry and re-entries to state parks at no additional charge per 23-1-105(6), and 61-3-321(19)(a), MCA. Occupants of the vehicle shall not be charged daily entrance fees.
- B. A person driving a vehicle registered and licensed in Montana that has opted out of the state park light vehicle registration fee, is subject to the same daily entrance fee established for a nonresident vehicle, per 23-1-105(6), and 61-3-321(19)(a), MCA (see Appendix A).
- C. Resident disabled veterans are exempt from paying Montana motor vehicle registration fees in accordance with 61-3-460 MCA, and are therefore exempt from state park entry fees.
- D. A nonresident vehicle shall not enter or use park areas, campgrounds or other facilities or otherwise participate in programs or activities for which a fee has been established without first paying the required fee.
- E. The nonresident single visit entrance fee authorizes entry for one nonresident motor vehicle and its occupants into a state park, or the entry of a single person into a state park on foot, by bus, bicycle, or means other than by conventional motor vehicle, for the date the fee is paid.
- F. The Non-Resident Annual Vehicle Entrance Pass authorizes daily entry for one nonresident motor vehicle, and its occupants for a 12-month period beginning with the month of purchase. To be valid, the nonresident Annual Vehicle Entrance Pass must be permanently affixed to the interior lower left area of the motor vehicle's windshield. A \$10 fee shall be assessed to replace a lost or destroyed pass. When replacing a windshield, a nonresident pass holder may present the peeled-off pass or the largest remnants to receive a free replacement.
- G. The 7-day Non-Resident Vehicle Entrance Pass authorizes daily entries for seven consecutive days from the date of purchase. The pass must be displayed on the driver's side dash of the vehicle.
- H. The Nonresident Annual Vehicle Entrance Pass can be purchased at selected license agents, department offices, designated recreation fee areas, via the department's web site, as well as other locations as approved by the Department. A nonresident who purchases an Annual Vehicle Entrance Pass via the department's web site may print a temporary copy that is valid for entry into any state park for a period of 7 days following the date of purchase. The purchaser will receive an official pass in the mail. A pass purchased via the department's web site shall be assessed a service fee.
- I. Federal park/public lands passports, e.g. the America the Beautiful card, are not valid at Montana State Parks.

VI. CAMPING, LODGING & ASSOCIATED FEES AT STATE PARKS

- A. There is a fee to camp at state parks. Exception:
 - i. In accordance with the Primitive State Parks Act (23-1-118 (1), MCA) Sluice Boxes and Medicine Rocks State Parks do not charge a Montana resident camping fee.
- B. A camping fee is charged per each individually signed, numbered or otherwise designated campsite and/or on a per camping unit basis.

- C. Resident or nonresident camping fees are determined based on the legal state of residency of the primary occupant registering for and/or reserving a campsite. Holders of a nonresident annual vehicle entrance pass shall be subject to resident camping fee rates.
- D. Camping fees are established for peak season and off-season.
- E. An electrical service fee \$6 shall be applied to all campsites with electrical service. Additional camping units in multiple occupancy electrified campsites will be subject to this fee (i.e. \$6 for single campsites, \$12, for double campsites, etc.). Campers may not opt out of the electrical service fee when occupying a campsite with the electrical service.
- F. Campers must pay the required fee upon occupying a campsite, cabin, yurt, or tipi. The camping permit must be attached to the campsite post if available or displayed on driver's side dashboard. If those options are not available, the permit must be displayed on the tent of the registered camper or in some other prominent location.
- G. Campsites with double occupancy or greater will charge a flat rate based on the maximum number of camping units allowed in that site.
- H. The nonresident camping fee includes the nonresident park entry fee. A nonresident who purchases a state park Entrance Pass will be subject to the resident camping fee. A nonresident who pays the nonresident daily vehicle entrance fee prior to occupying a campsite may deduct that amount from their daily campsite fee.
- I. Overnight camping fees shall be assessed when camping overnight on a boat that is moored within a designated boat slip, marina or buoy.
- J. 23-1-105(2), MCA, provides that an overnight camping fee will be discounted 50 percent for a campsite rented by a Montana resident who is:
 - i. A senior citizen 62 years of age or older and provides a photo identification with Montana resident address (e.g., Montana Driver's License); or
 - ii. A person with a disability, verified by either a disability form obtained from the department and signed by a physician, a Resident Disability Conservation License, or a disability permit or license plate issued by the Montana Motor Vehicle Division; or
 - iii. Veteran of the armed forces. Veteran shall carry proof of the person's veteran status, such as a DD form 214, US Department of Veteran's Affairs identification card, or a driver's license indicating the person's veteran status.
- K. Resident senior disabled or veterans discount can only be applied to one site occupied by the discount holder. Only one discount type may apply to a campsite. Resident senior/disabled or Veterans discounts may not be applied to the electricity service fee or to any other facility use or rental fees such as yurts, tipis, cabins, boat slips, shelters, meeting rooms, showers, etc.
- L. A senior citizen with a Golden Years' Pass issued by the department shall be granted free camping. The Golden Years' Pass is valid only if the holder or spouse is in the vehicle to which it is attached. This pass is non-transferable. The original holder of a Golden Years' Pass can obtain a replacement pass at any FWP office or the FWP Helena headquarters for \$1 by showing a portion of the original pass.

(NOTE: The Golden Years' Pass was available to those 60 years and older. It was discontinued after 1989.)

- M. Selected state park campsites may be reserved through the state park recreation management system. See Section VII.
- N. Campsite occupancy limits at each individually signed, numbered or otherwise designated campsite are established as follows:
 - 1. Single occupancy campsite = a maximum of one camping unit, 2 additional tents, eight persons
 - 2. Double occupancy campsite = a maximum of two camping units, 4 additional tents, 16 persons
 - 3. Quadruple occupancy campsite = 4 camping units, 8 additional tents, 32 persons
 - 4. Large group campsites = a maximum number of camping units and/or increments of eight persons
- O. Except for tents, all camping units, motor vehicles, boats, trailers, motorcycles, non-licensed recreational vehicles, and other similar forms of transportation must be parked within the designated and/or delineated parking area of the campsite or at designated overflow (alternative) parking areas.— ALL NONRESIDENT EXTRA VEHICLES SUBJECT TO DAILY ENTRANCE FEE.
- P. The park manager may establish a dispersed camping area with occupancy limits and terms and conditions for use of the area. Groups that exceed thirty persons may require a special use permit.
- Q. Campsites must be occupied overnight.
- R. Quiet hours in campgrounds shall be posted and enforced between the hours of 10:00 pm and 7:00 am.
- S. Montana-accommodation tax is charged on camping and lodging fees as per 15-65-111 & 15-68-102, MCA.
- T. Entry to and camping in state parks are subject to the provisions of 12.8.803 ARM Camping and Lodging.
- U. The department may charge fees, issue permits and establish terms and conditions for firewood cutting at designated sites.
- V. The department may charge a fee for allowance of pets in cabins, yurts, and tipis where this use is permitted.
- W. The department may charge a fee for the use of boat slips, boat mooring facilities, public showers and sewage dump stations.
- X. The Department may charge a corral fee for use of corral facilities on a per animal per night basis.
- Y. The Department may charge a higher rate for camping and lodging in parks that are determined as premium campgrounds.

VII. RESERVATION PROGRAM

- A. The Department will develop and implement specific business rules for administering the reservation program, including but not limited to procedures, reservation fees, limits, modifications, and cancellations.

VIII.-SPECIAL USE

- A. Some park facilities may be reserved subject to availability and approval by staff.
- B. Any request for special use will be submitted on a special use application. The application must be submitted a minimum of 7 days prior to the proposed date(s) of use.
- C. The park manager may deny any special use application or facility reservation request or stipulate the conditions of use based on the nature of the proposed use and the regulations and management objectives in place at the park where the use would occur.
- D. A facility reservation should be requested through the appropriate regional office or park, or reservation program website/call center a minimum of seven days prior to the proposed date(s) of use. Reservations may also be made by telephoning the appropriate regional headquarters or park office. All telephone reservations must be confirmed within five days by submitting a facility reservation form.
- E. There is a rental fee for use of shelters, pavilions, amphitheaters, meeting rooms and other park facilities.
- F. A cleaning deposit may be required in advance for a special use or facility rental. The park manager shall assess the cleanup and/or restoration of resources and facilities and if conditions are satisfactory the manager shall refund the deposit.
- G. The park manager shall refund the cleaning deposit if the reservation is canceled more than seven days in advance. If a reservation is canceled less than seven days before the intended use period, the cleaning deposit shall be retained. If the facility is unavailable for the intended use due to unforeseen conditions, both the fee and deposit shall be refunded.
- H. Fees are authorized for special use at state parks.

IX. INTERPRETIVE & EDUCATIONAL FEES

- A. The department may charge a fee for department-provided programs and events. Fees may be adjusted on a case-by-case basis for marketing or otherwise promoting the activity. Entrance fees may be waived per section IV: Applicability of Rules.

X. SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A. Fees shall be prominently signed and posted where applicable.

XI. PENALTIES

- A. No person shall enter or use state parks, campgrounds or other facilities, or otherwise participate in programs or activities for which a fee has been established without paying the required fee. Any violation of this provision is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500 per 23-1-106, MCA.
- B. Violation of fee requirements, administrative rules, state laws or other provisions in this rule may result in enforcement actions and/or expulsion from the area. Reference 23-1-106 MCA and 12.8.823 ARM

XII. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

- A. If a part of this fee rule is invalid, all valid parts are severable from the invalid part and shall remain in effect. If a part of this fee rule is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications severable from the invalid applications.

XII. ADOPTED BY:

Beth Shumate, Parks Division Administrator

Date

Martha Williams, Director, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Date